

FORT WORTH DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS P.O. BOX 17300 FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102-0300

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF:

September 11, 2007

Engineering and Construction Support Office

Subject: Transmittal Letter for Draft Environmental Assessment and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact for the Proposed Installation of 5.2 Miles of Pedestrian Fence, United States Border Patrol, Tucson Sector, Arizona

Arizona Game and Fish Department
Project Evaluation Program Supervisor
Habitat Branch – Project Evaluation Program
ATTN: Ms. Rebecca Davidson
2221 W. Greenway Road WM-HB
Phoenix, AZ 85023-4312

Dear Ms. Davidson:

The United States (U.S.) Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on behalf of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the U.S. Border Patrol (USBP). The enclosed draft EA addresses potential impacts of the proposed construction and maintenance of 5.2 miles of pedestrian fence along the U.S. / Mexico International border near Lukeville, Arizona.

While no final decisions regarding the location of additional fencing along the Southwest Border have been made, the USBP is accessing the operational requirements and land issues along the entire Southwest border. The preparation of this EA does not necessarily mean the proposed pedestrian fence will be constructed. This effort is a prudent part of the planning process needed to access any environmental concerns.

The proposed project is located within the USBP Tucson Sector, Ajo Station's Area of Operation (AOR) located near the Lukeville Port of Entry (POE). The fence would extend approximately 2.1 miles to the west and 3.1 miles to the east of the POE along the U.S. / Mexico border. The purpose of the proposed action is to comply with Federal mandates to gain and maintain effective operational control of the border.

Sincerely,

Eric W. Verwers



FORT WORTH DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 17300
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102-0300

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Subject: Transmittal Letter for Draft Environmental Assessment and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact for the Proposed Installation of 5.2 Miles of Pedestrian Fence, United States Border Patrol, Tucson Sector, Arizona

Defenders of Wildlife Diversity ATTN: Mr. Brian Segee 1130 Seventeenth Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036-4604

Dear Mr. Segee:

The United States (U.S.) Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on behalf of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the U.S. Border Patrol (USBP). The enclosed draft EA addresses potential impacts of the proposed construction and maintenance of 5.2 miles of pedestrian fence along the U.S. / Mexico International border near Lukeville, Arizona.

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Subject: Transmittal Letter for Draft Environmental Assessment and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact for the Proposed Installation of 5.2 Miles of Pedestrian Fence, United States Border Patrol, Tucson Sector, Arizona

Border Action Network ATTN: Mr. Bryn Jones P.O. Box 384 Tucson. AZ 85702

Dear Mr. Jones:

The United States (U.S.) Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on behalf of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the U.S. Border Patrol (USBP). The enclosed draft EA addresses potential impacts of the proposed construction and maintenance of 5.2 miles of pedestrian fence along the U.S. / Mexico International border near Lukeville, Arizona.

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Subject: Transmittal Letter for Draft Environmental Assessment and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact for the Proposed Installation of 5.2 Miles of Pedestrian Fence, United States Border Patrol, Tucson Sector, Arizona

Sky Island Alliance ATTN: Mr. Matt Skroch P.O. Box 41165 Tucson, AZ 85717-1165

Dear Mr. Skroch:

The United States (U.S.) Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on behalf of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the U.S. Border Patrol (USBP). The enclosed draft EA addresses potential impacts of the proposed construction and maintenance of 5.2 miles of pedestrian fence along the U.S. / Mexico International border near Lukeville, Arizona.

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Subject: Transmittal Letter for Draft Environmental Assessment and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact for the Proposed Installation of 5.2 Miles of Pedestrian Fence, United States Border Patrol, Tucson Sector, Arizona

Center for Biological Diversity ATTN: Mr. Daniel Patterson P.O. Box 710 Tucson, AZ 85702

Dear Mr. Patterson:

The United States (U.S.) Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on behalf of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the U.S. Border Patrol (USBP). The enclosed draft EA addresses potential impacts of the proposed construction and maintenance of 5.2 miles of pedestrian fence along the U.S. / Mexico International border near Lukeville, Arizona.

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**Engineering and Construction Support Office** 

Subject: Transmittal Letter for Draft Environmental Assessment and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact for the Proposed Installation of 5.2 Miles of Pedestrian Fence, United States Border Patrol, Tucson Sector, Arizona

Defenders of Wildlife ATTN: Ms. Jenny Neely 110 S. Church Suite 4292 Tucson, AZ 8570

Dear Ms. Neely:

The United States (U.S.) Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on behalf of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the U.S. Border Patrol (USBP). The enclosed draft EA addresses potential impacts of the proposed construction and maintenance of 5.2 miles of pedestrian fence along the U.S. / Mexico International border near Lukeville, Arizona.

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Subject: Transmittal Letter for Draft Environmental Assessment and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact for the Proposed Installation of 5.2 Miles of Pedestrian Fence, United States Border Patrol, Tucson Sector, Arizona

Defenders of Wildlife ATTN: Ms. Kara Gillon 824 Gold SW Albuquerque, NM 87102

Dear Ms. Gillon:

The United States (U.S.) Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on behalf of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the U.S. Border Patrol (USBP). The enclosed draft EA addresses potential impacts of the proposed construction and maintenance of 5.2 miles of pedestrian fence along the U.S. / Mexico International border near Lukeville, Arizona.

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REPLY TO ATTENTION OF: September 11, 2007

Engineering and Construction Support Office

Subject: Transmittal Letter for Draft Environmental Assessment and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact for the Proposed Installation of 5.2 Miles of Pedestrian Fence, United States Border Patrol, Tucson Sector, Arizona

Derechos Humanos ATTN: Ms. Kat Rodriguez P.O. Box 1286 Tucson, AZ 85702

Dear Ms. Rodriquez:

The United States (U.S.) Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on behalf of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the U.S. Border Patrol (USBP). The enclosed draft EA addresses potential impacts of the proposed construction and maintenance of 5.2 miles of pedestrian fence along the U.S. / Mexico International border near Lukeville, Arizona.

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Eric W. Verwers



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Subject: Transmittal Letter for Draft Environmental Assessment and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact for the Proposed Installation of 5.2 Miles of Pedestrian Fence, United States Border Patrol, Tucson Sector, Arizona

U.S. Bureau of Land Management Tucson Office ATTN: Ms. Shela McFarland 300 W. Congress Federal Building CNF-6V3 Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Ms. McFarland:

The United States (U.S.) Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on behalf of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the U.S. Border Patrol (USBP). The enclosed draft EA addresses potential impacts of the proposed construction and maintenance of 5.2 miles of pedestrian fence along the U.S. / Mexico International border near Lukeville, Arizona.

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Eric W. Verwers



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FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102-0300

REPLY TO

September 13, 2007

### Engineering and Construction Support Office

Subject: Transmittal Letter for Draft Environmental Assessment and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact for the Proposed Installation of 5.2 Miles of Pedestrian Fence, United States Border Patrol, Tucson Sector, Arizona

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 9 Federal Activities Office "CMD-2" ATTN: Ms. Lisa Hanf 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Ms. Hanf:

The United States (U.S.) Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on behalf of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the U.S. Border Patrol (USBP). The enclosed draft EA addresses potential impacts of the proposed construction and maintenance of 5.2 miles of pedestrian fence along the U.S. / Mexico International border near Lukeville, Arizona.

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Sincerely,

M. Told Lith

Eric W. Verwers
Director, Engineering and
Construction Support Office



FORT WORTH DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 17300
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102-0300

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF:

September 13, 2007

**Engineering and Construction Support Office** 

Subject: Transmittal Letter for Draft Environmental Assessment and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact for the Proposed Installation of 5.2 Miles of Pedestrian Fence, United States Border Patrol, Tucson Sector, Arizona

International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section ATTN: Mr. Gilbert Anaya 4171 North Mesa, Suite C-100 El Paso, TX 79902-1441

Dear Mr. Anaya:

The United States (U.S.) Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on behalf of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the U.S. Border Patrol (USBP). The enclosed draft EA addresses potential impacts of the proposed construction and maintenance of 5.2 miles of pedestrian fence along the U.S. / Mexico International border near Lukeville, Arizona.

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Sincerely,

Eric W. Verwers

Director, Engineering and Construction Support Office

M. Todd Snith



### United States Department of the Interior

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Arizona Ecological Services Field Office
2321 West Royal Palm Road, Suite 103
Phoenix, Arizona 85021-4951
Telephone: (602) 242-0210 Fax: (602) 242-2513



In Reply Refer to: AESO/SE 22410-2007-SL-0337

July 10, 2007

Mr. Eric W. Verwers, Director Engineering and Construction Support Office Department of the Army Fort Worth District, Corps of Engineers Fort Worth, Texas 76102-0300

RE: Environmental Assessment for Installation of 4.2 miles of Pedestrian Fence along the International Border near Lukeville, Arizona, Office of Border Patrol Tucson Sector, Arizona

Dear Mr. Verwers:

Thank you for your correspondence of June 4, 2007, received on June 11, 2007, requesting information on threatened or endangered species, or those that are proposed to be listed as such under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act), which may occur in your proposed project area. The endangered Sonoran pronghorn (Antilocapra americana sonoriensis), the endangered lesser long-nosed bat (Leptonycteris curasoae yerbabuenae), and the endangered Quitobaquito pupfish (Cyprinodon eremus) and its critical habitat, occur within the vicinity of the proposed Installation of 4.2 miles of Pedestrian Fence along the International Border near the Lukeville Project. Additionally, the Sonoyta mud turtle (Kinosternon sonoriense longifemorale) – a candidate for Federal listing, and the Quitobaquito springsnail (Tryonia quitobaquitae) – a sensitive species endemic to Quitobaquito, occur in the area. Quitobaquito is a unique desert oasis that is important for these species as well as a suite of migratory and resident birds.

When preparing your Environmental Assessment, we recommend you provide an analysis of the effects (both direct and indirect, as well as effects of any interrelated or interdependent actions) to all listed species and critical habitat from all components of the proposed project (i.e., installation and maintenance of the fence, roads [if proposed], and lights [if proposed]; patrol associated with the pedestrian fence and roads; etc.). We request you quantify the amount of listed species habitat that will be impacted. For example for the lesser long-nosed bat, quantify the number of forage plants that will be destroyed and salvaged. We do not recommend any groundwater be extracted from the area for project purposes; however, if it is, please quantify the amount that will be used and describe potential effects to the Quitobaquito pupfish from this groundwater use. Water levels at Quitobaquito pond are currently very low, and any

Mr. Eric W. Verwers

groundwater pumping could result in degradation or loss of critical habitat and mortality of Quitobaquito pupfish and other wetland species. Additionally, please provide an analysis of effects to listed species from potential shifts in illegal traffic and pursuant law enforcement that may occur as a result of the proposed project.

We are concerned about impacts of the proposed project on the aforementioned species, as well as on all native flora and fauna, and we recommend they be avoided and minimized to the greatest extent possible. Where this is not possible, we recommend impacts be offset through implementation of conservation measures to recover listed species. To avoid and minimize species impacts, we generally recommend: 1) the project footprint be minimized; 2) disturbance to all columnar cacti and agave be avoided and where this is not possible, they should be salvaged (or replaced with nursery stock) and placed near or within the project area; 3) any vegetation clearing should occur from September 2 - January 31, to avoid impacts to breeding birds protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (these dates also coincide with the time period when Sonoran pronghorn are less physiologically stressed); 4) night-lighting be avoided; 5) groundwater not be extracted from the project vicinity and no water be drafted or diverted from the pond at Quitobaquito; 6) the fence be designed to allow for natural hydrological processes to occur to the greatest extent possible; 7) biological monitors be on-site during all clearing/construction-related activities of the project to ensure compliance and to ensure project activities are stopped if pronghorn are detected within one mile, and only allowed to resume after pronghorn have moved more than one mile away. We are available to assist you in developing specific measures to avoid, minimize, and offset project impacts.

Additionally, for further information the Arizona Ecological Service Field Office has posted lists of the endangered, threatened, proposed, and candidate species occurring in each of Arizona's 15 counties on the Internet. Please refer to the following web page for species information in the county where your project occurs: <a href="http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/">http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/</a>. If you do not have access to the Internet or have difficulty obtaining a list, please contact our office and we will mail or fax you a list as soon as possible.

After opening the web page, find County Species Lists on the main page. Then click on the county of interest. The arrows on the left will guide you through information on species that are listed, proposed, candidates, or have conservation agreements. Here you will find information on the species' status, a physical description, all counties where the species occurs, habitat, elevation, and some general comments. Additional information can be obtained by going back to the main page. On the left side of the screen, click on Document Library, then click on Documents by Species, then click on the name of the species of interest to obtain General Species Information, or other documents that may be available. Click on the "Cactus" icon to view the desired document.

Endangered and threatened species are protected by Federal law and must be considered prior to project development. If the action agency determines that listed species or critical habitat may be adversely affected by a federally funded, permitted, or authorized activity, the action agency will

Mr. Eric W. Verwers

need to request formal consultation with us. If the action agency determines that the planned action may jeopardize a proposed species or destroy or adversely modify proposed critical habitat, the action agency will need to enter into a section 7 conference. The county list may also contain candidate or conservation agreement species. As mentioned, the Sonoyta mud turtle, a candidate species, occurs within the vicinity of your proposed project. Candidate species are those for which there is sufficient information to support a proposal for listing; conservation agreement species are those for which we have entered into an agreement to protect the species and its habitat. Although candidate and conservation agreement species have no legal protection under the Act, we recommend that they be considered in the planning process in the event that they become listed or proposed for listing prior to project completion.

If any proposed action occurs in or near areas with trees and shrubs growing along watercourses, known as riparian habitat (i.e., at Quitobaquito pond), we recommend the protection of these areas. Riparian areas are critical to biological community diversity and provide linear corridors important to migratory species. In addition, if the project will result in the deposition of dredged or fill materials into waterways, we recommend you contact the Army Corps of Engineers, which regulates these activities under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

The State of Arizona and some of the Native American Tribes protect some plant and animal species not protected by Federal law. We recommend you contact the Arizona Game and Fish Department and the Arizona Department of Agriculture for State-listed or sensitive species, or contact the appropriate Native American Tribe to determine if sensitive species are protected by Tribal governments in your project area. We further recommend that you invite the Arizona Game and Fish Department, any Native American Tribes in or near your project area, and the Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument to participate in your informal or formal Section 7 Consultation process. We are providing this letter to the Arizona Game and Fish Department, the Tohono O'odham Tribe, and the Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument for their information.

For additional communications regarding this project, please refer to consultation number 22410-2007-SL-0337. We appreciate your efforts to identify and avoid impacts to listed and sensitive species in your project area. If we may be of further assistance, please feel free to contact Erin Fernandez (x238) or Jim Rorabaugh (x230) at (520) 670-6150.

Delga T. Bell

Sincerely,

FUL Steven L. Spangle Field Supervisor

Mr. Eric W. Verwers

cc: Chief, Habitat Branch, Arizona Game and Fish Department, Phoenix, AZ Regional Supervisor, Arizona Game and Fish Department, Yuma, AZ Regional Supervisor, Arizona Game and Fish Department, Tucson, AZ Assistant Field Supervisor, Fish and Wildlife Service, Tucson, AZ Superintendent, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, Ajo, AZ George Hutchinson, Customs and Border Protection, Washington, DC Sector Chief, Border Patrol, Tucson, AZ Chairperson, Tohono O'Odham Nation, Sells, AZ Manager, Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge, Ajo, AZ

W:\Erin Fernandez\Lukeville Fence SL July 07.doc: jkey

### THE STATE OF ARIZONA

### GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

2221 WEST GREENWAY ROAD PHOENIX, AZ 85023-4399 (602) 942-3000 • AZGFD.GOV

REGION IV, 9140 E. 28TH ST., YUMA, AZ 85365

GOVERNOR
JANET NAPOLITANO
COMMISSIONERS
CHAIRMAN, MICHAEL M. GOLIGHTLY, FLAGSTAFF
WILLIAM H. MCLEAN, GOLD CANYON
BOB HERNBRODE, TUCSON
JENNIFER L. MARTIN, PHOENIX
ROBERT R. WOODHOUSE, ROLL
DIRECTOR
DUANE L. SHROUFE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STEVE K. FERRELL



July 5, 2007

Eric W. Verwers
Director, Engineering and Construction Support Office
Department of the Army
Corps of Engineers, Forth Worth District Office
P.O. Box 17300
Fort Worth, TX 76102-0300

Re: Scoping Comments Draft Environmental Assessment for Installation of 4.2 Miles of Pedestrian Fence along the International Border near Lukeville, Pima County:

The Arizona Game and Fish Department (Department) has reviewed the request for scoping information for the above-referenced Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) for the installation of 4.2 miles of pedestrian fence along the International Border near Lukeville, AZ in a letter dated June 4, 2007. The following comments are provided for your consideration.

The Department's online toll has been accessed and the attached document includes a list of special status species recorded in the vicinity of the project area. The document includes the Department's recommendations for minimizing impacts to and fulfilling regulatory compliance for the listed special status species

The Department notes that this fence is a potential barrier to north-south movement by reptiles, amphibians and small mammals in the project area. We recommend considering fence designs that would allow movement through the fence by these species. If this is not possible, we recommend analyzing the impacts to these species and proposing appropriate mitigation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these preliminary comments. The Department appreciates the opportunity to participate in this process. If you have any questions, please contact me at 928-341-4047.

Sincerely,

William C. Knowles
Habitat Specialist
Region IV, Yuma

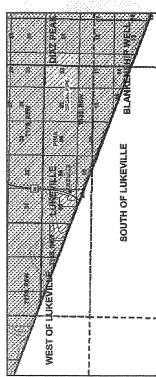
Eric W. Verwers July 5, 2007 2

cc: Russell Engel, Habitat Program Manager, Region IV Rebecca Davidson, Proj. Eval. Prog. Supervisor, Habitat Branch

Attachment

AGFD # M07-06145520

### Project Location



Project Name: Lukeville Border Fence Submitted By: Troy Smith

On behalf of: AZGFD

Project Search ID: 20070705003240 Date: 7/5/2007 10:57:53 AM

Project Category: Law Enforcement Activities Associated with the

Border, Fencing

Project Coordinates (UTM Zone 12-NAD 83): 328239.389, 3528543.522 meter

Project Length: 7090.034 meter County; PIMA

JSGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle ID: 1810

Quadrangle Name: LUKEVILLE Project locality is currently being scoped

# Location Accuracy Disclaimer

accurate for the purposes of environmental review. The Project locations are assumed to be both precise and creator/owner of the Project Review Receipt is solely correctness of the Project Review Receipt content. responsible for the project location and thus the

The Degarment appreciates the opportunity to provide in-depth comments and project review when additional information or environmental documentation becomes available.

# Special Status Species Occurrences/Critical Habitat/Tribal Lands within 3 miles of Project Vicinity:

-		and the second		The same of the sa		
	Name	Common Name	ESA	ESA USFS BLM	Z 00	State
	Anthocharis cethura	Felder's Orange Tip		တ		
	Antilocapra americana sonoriensis	Sonoran Pronghorn	1.6	s		WSC
	Bat Colony					
	Charina trivirgata trivirgata	Mexican Rosy Boa	SC		တ	
	Ferocactus emoryl	Emory's Barrel-cactus				SR
	Gastrophryne olivacea	Great Plains Narrow-mouthed Toad				WSC
	Gopherus agassizil (Sonoran Population)	Sonoran Desert Tortolse	၁ဇ			WSC
	Lophocereus schottii	Senita				SR
	Myotis velifer	Cave Myoffs	ခင		S	
	Peniocereus striatus	Dahlia Rooted Cereus				SR
	Stenocereus thurberi	Organ Pipe Cactus				SR
	Tumamoca macdougalli	Tumamoc Globeberry		S	S	SR

Please review the entire receipt for project type recommendations and/or species or location information and retain a copy for future reference. If any of the information you provided did not accurately reflect this project, or if project plans change, another review should be conducted, as this determination may not be valid.

# Arizona's On-line Environmental Review Tool:

1. This On-line Environmental Review Tool inquiry has generated recommendations regarding the potential impacts of your project on Special Status Species (SSS) and other wildlife of Arizona. SSS include all U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service federally listed, U.S. Bureau of Land Management sensitive, U.S. Forest Service sensitive, and Arizona Game and Fish Department (Department) recognized species of concern.

2. These recommendations have been made by the Department, under authority of Arizona Revised Statutes Title 5 (Amusements and Sports), 17 (Game and Fish), and 28 (Transportation). These recommendations are preliminary in scope, designed to provide early considerations for all species of wildlife, pertinent to the project type you entered.

3. This receipt, generated by the automated On-line Environmental Review Tool does not constitute an official project review by Department biologists and planners. Further coordination may be necessary as appropriate under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and/or the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has regulatory authority over all federally listed species under the ESA. Contact USFWS Ecological Services Offices: http://arizonaes.fws.gov/.

Phoenix Main Office 2321 W. Royal Palm Road, Suite 103 Phoenix, AZ 85021 Phone 602-242-0210 Fax 602-242-2513

Tucson Sub-Office 201 North Bonita, Suite 141 Tucson, AZ 85745 Phone 520-670-6144 Fax 520-670-6154 Flagstaff Sub-Office 323 N. Leroux Street, Suite 101 Flagstaff, AZ 86001 Phone 928-226-0614 Fax 928-226-1099

### **Disclaimer**:

- This is a preliminary environmental screening tool. It is not a substitute for the potential knowledge gained by having a biologist conduct a field survey of the project area.
- 2. The Department's Heritage Data Management System (HDMS) data is not intended to include potential distribution of special status species. Arizona is large and diverse with plants, animals, and environmental conditions that are ever changing. Consequently, many areas may contain species that biologists do not know about or species previously noted in a particular area may no longer occur there.
- 3. Not all of Arizona has been surveyed for special status species, and surveys that have been conducted have varied greatly in scope and intensity. Such surveys may reveal previously undocumented population of species of special concern.
  - 4. HDMS data contains information about species occurrences that have actually been reported to the Department.

Arizona Game and Fish Department Mission

To conserve, enhance, and restore Arizona's diverse wildlife resources and habitats through aggressive protection and

Page 2 of 5 APPLICATION INITIALS:

management programs, and to provide wildlife resources and safe watercraft and off-highway vehicle recreation for the enjoyment, appreciation, and use by present and future generations.

### Project Category: Law Enforcement Activities Associated with the Border, Fencing

## Project Type Recommendations:

Based on the project type entered; coordination with State Historic Preservation Office may be required http://www.pr.state.az.us/partnerships/shpo/shpo.html#anchor561695

During the planning stages of your project, please consider the local or regional needs of wildlife in regards to movement, connectivity, and access to habitat needs. Loss of this permeability prevents wildlife from accessing resources, finding mates, reduces gene flow, prevents wildlife from re-colonizing areas where local extirpations may have occurred, and ultimately prevents wildlife from contributing to ecosystem functions, such as pollination, seed dispersal, control of prey numbers, and resistance to invasive species. In many cases, streams and washes provide natural movement corridors for wildlife and should be maintained in their natural state. Uplands also support a large diversity of species, and should be contained within important wildlife movement corridors. In addition, maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem functions can be facilitated through improving designs of structures, fences, roadways, and culverts to promote passage for a variety of wildlife.

Recommendations will be dependant upon goals of the fence project and the wildlife species expected to be impacted by the project. Please

contact the Project Evaluation Program for further fencing recommendations and specifications.

# Project Location and/or Species recommendations:

HDMS records indicate that one or more listed, proposed, or candidate species or Critical Habitat (Designated or Proposed) have been documented in the vicinity of your project (refer to page 1 of the receipt). Please contact:

Ecological Services Office US Fish and Wildlife Service

2321 W. Royal Palm Rd. Phoenix, AZ 85021-4951 Phone: 602-242-0210 Fax: 602-242-2513 HDMS records indicate that one or more native plants listed on the Arizona Native Plant Law and Antiquities Act have been documented within the vicinity of your project area (refer to page 1 of the receipt). Please contact:

Arizona Department of Agriculture

1688 W Adams Phoenix, AZ 85007 Phone: 602-542-4373 HDMS records indicate that Sonoran desert fortoise have been documented within the vicinity of your project area (refer to the species list on page 1 of the receipt). Please review the Tortoise Handling Guidelines found on the Environmental Review Home Page.

http://www.azgfd.gov/hgis/guidelines.azpx

Page 3 of 5 APPLICATION INITIALS:

## Recommendations Disclaimer:

- Potential impacts to fish and wildlife resources may be minimized or avoided by the recommendations generated from information submitted for your proposed project.
- 2. These recommendations are proposed actions or guidelines to be considered during preliminary project development.
  - 3. Additional site specific recommendations may be proposed during further NEPA/ESA analysis or through coordination with affected
- 4. Making this information directly available does not substitute for the Department's review of project proposals, and should not decrease our opportunity to review and evaluate additional project information and/or new project proposals.
- 5. The Department is interested in the conservation of all fish and wildlife resources, including those Special Status Species listed on this receipt, and those that may have not been documented within the project vicinity as well as other game and nongame wildlife.

  6. Further coordination requires the submittal of this Environmental Review Receipt with a cover letter and project plans or documentation that includes project narrative, acreage to be impacted, how construction or project activity(s) are to be accomplished, and project locality information (including site map).
- Upon receiving information by AZGFD, please allow 30 days for completion of project reviews. Mail requests to:

Project Evaluation Program, Habitat Branch Arizona Game and Fish Department 2221 West Greenway Road Phoenix, Arizona 85023-4312

Phone Number: (602) 789-3600 Fax Number: (602) 789-3928

### Terms of Use

By using this site, you acknowledge that you have read and understand the terms of use. Department staff may revise these terms periodically. If you continue to use our website after we post changes to these terms, it will mean that you accept such changes. If at any time you do not wish to accept the Terms, you may choose not to use the website.

- This Environmental Review and project planning website was developed and intended for the purpose of screening projects for potential impacts on resources of special concern. By indicating your agreement to the terms of use for this website, you warrant that you will not use this website for any other purpose.
- Unauthorized attempts to upload information or change information on this website are strictly prohibited and may be punishable under the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act of 1986 and/or the National Information Infrastructure Protection Act.
  - The Department reserves the right at any time, without notice, to enhance, modify, alter, or suspend the website and to terminate or restrict your access to the website.
- 4. This Environmental Review is based on the project study area that was entered. The review must be redone if the project study area, location, or the type of project changes. If additional information becomes available, this review may need to be reconsidered.

### Security:

The Environmental Review and project planning web application operates on a complex State computer system. This system is monitored to ensure proper operation, to verify the functioning of applicable security features, and for other like purposes. Anyone using

Page 4 of 5 APPLICATION INITIALS:

this system expressly consents to such monitoring and is advised that if such monitoring reveals possible evidence of criminal activity, system personnel may provide the evidence of such monitoring to law enforcement officials. Unauthorized attempts to upload or change information; to defeat or circumvent security measures; or to utilize this system for other than its intended purposes are prohibited.

Agency/organization:

Contact Name:

This website maintains a record of each environmental review search result as well as all contact information. This information is maintained for internal tracking purposes. Information collected in this application will not be shared outside of the purposes of the Department.

City, State, Zip:

Phone:

Address:

If the Environmental Review Receipt and supporting material are not mailed to the Department or other appropriate agencies within six (6) months of the Project Review Receipt date, the receipt is considered to be null and void, and a new review must be initiated.

E-mail:

Print this Environmental Review Receipt using your internet browser's print function and keep it for your records. Further coordination requires the submittal of this Environmental Review Receipt with a cover letter and project plans or documentation that includes project narrative, acreage to be impacted, how construction or project activity(s) are to be accomplished, and project locality information (including site map).

Please provide point of contact information regarding this Environmental Review.

Application or organization responsible for project implementation

Page 5 of 5 APPLICATION INITIALS:

Benjamin H. Nuvamsa

Todd Honyaoma, Sr. VICE-CHAIRMAN



Hopi Cultural Preservation Office P.O. Box 123 Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039 (928) 734-3612

July 2, 2007

Eric W. Verwers, Director, Engineering and Construction Support Office Attention: Patience Patterson Department of the Army, Fort Worth District, Corps of Engineers P.O. Box 17300, 819 Taylor Street Fort Worth, Texas 76102-0300

Dear Mr. Verwers,

Thank you for your letter on behalf of Customs and Border Protection dated June 8, 2007, regarding the installation of 4.2 miles of pedestrian fence along the international border near Lukeville, Arizona. The Hopi Cultural Preservation Office understands this proposal constitutes a federal undertaking and the Corps of Engineers will be preparing an environmental analysis.

The Hopi Tribe claims cultural affiliation to prehistoric cultural groups in Arizona, and supports the identification and avoidance of archaeological sites and Traditional Cultural Properties. We understand previous cultural resources survey of the area of potential effect for this proposal identified no prehistoric cultural resources. We are not ware of any Hopi Traditional Cultural Properties in this project area. Therefore, we have determined that this proposal is unlikely to effect cultural resources significant to the Hopi Tribe.

We appreciate your continuing solicitation of our input and your efforts to address our concerns. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Terry Morgart at the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office. Thank you again for your consideration.

Respectfully.

Veigh J. Kuwanwisiwma, Director Hopi Cultural Preservation Office



### QUECHAN INDIAN TRIBE Ft. Yuma Indian Reservation

P.O. Box 1899 Yuma, Arizona 85366-1899 Phone (760) 572-0213 Fax (760) 572-2102

June 25, 2007

Department of the Army Mr. Eric Verwers PO Box 17300 Fort Worth, TX 76102-0300

Dear Mr. Verwers,

Thank you for updating us on the proposed installation of 4.2 miles of border barrier fence near the Lukeville Port of Entry.

We have reviewed the area in which the proposal takes place and have determined that there is no potential for impact on cultural resources affiliated with the Quechan Tribe. However, given the area of the project, there may be a potential impact on cultural resources affiliated with the Tohono O'odham. We support any decisions made by the tribe.

Again, thank you for your continued updates on this project. If you need any further information or have any questions, please contact me at (760) 572-2423.

Sincerely.

Bridget R. Nash-Chrabascz Historic Preservation Officer



### THE COCOPAH INDIAN TRIBE

Cultural Resource Department County 15<sup>th</sup> & Avenue G Somerton, Arizona 85350 Telephone (928) 627-2102 Fax (928) 627-3173

June 19, 2007

H. Jill McCormick Cocopah Tribe County 15 & Avenue G Somerton, AZ 85350 928-503-2291

Eric W. Verwers
Department of the Army
Fort Worth District, Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 17300, 819 Taylor Street
Fort Worth, Texas 76102-0300

RE: Environmental Assessment for the installation of 4.2 miles of Pedestrian Fence along the International Border near Lukeville, Arizona

The Cultural Resources Department of the Cocopah Indian Tribe appreciates your consultation efforts on this project. We are pleased that you contacted the Cocopah Tribe on this cultural resource issue for the purpose of solicitation of our input and to address our concerns on this matter. However, at this time we wish to make no comments on the development of the project, although we would like to continue to be a part of any consultation process in the future.

If you have any questions or need additional information please feel free to contact the cultural resource department. We will be happy to assist you with any and all future concerns or questions.

H. Jill McCormick

Cultural Resource Manager



# SHPO-2007-1173 (33482) DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

# FORT WORTH DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERSS P.O. BOX 17300, 819 TAYLOR STREET FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102-0300

June 8, 2007

Engineering and Construction Support Office

SUBJECT: Environmental Assessment for the Installation of 4.2 miles of Pedestrian Fence along the International Border near Lukeville, Arizona, Office of Border Patrol Tucson Sector, Arizona

Mr. James Garrison, State Historic Preservation Officer ATTN: Ms. JoAnne Medley Arizona State Parks 1300 West Washington Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Mr. Garrison:

While no final decisions on the fence locations have been made, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District (USACE) on behalf of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) intends to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) to address the feasibility of installing and maintaining approximately 4.2 miles of border barrier fence.

Based on congressional and executive mandates, CBP is assessing operational requirements and land issues along the entire Southwest border. Preparing the EA does not necessarily mean the 4.2 miles of barrier fence will be installed. This effort is a prudent part of the planning process needed to assess any environmental concerns.

The potential project would consist of replacing 4.2 miles of vehicle barriers with border fence. The construction foot print for this potential project would encompass the entire Roosevelt Reservation (60 feet from the U.S.-Mexico border north). The proposed border fence would begin 2.1 miles west of the Lukeville Port of Entry (POE) and extend eastward along the U.S.-Mexico border for 4.2 miles. Attached is a portion of the Lukeville 7.5 minute USGS quadrangle, which identifies the possible project site.

Previous cultural resource investigations and their Section 106 compliance have been accomplished by the Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument for their permanent vehicle barrier project. Therefore, no cultural resources surveys will be conducted, as the potential areas of impact are replacement and will be situated in the cleared area.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ms. Patience Patterson, RPA (817) 886-1723 or Assistant Chief Patrol Agent Craig Weinbrenner at the Office of Border Patrol, Tucson Sector (520) 748-3000.

Sincerely,

Eric W. Verwers

Director, Engineering and Construction

No Historic Properties Affected

Anizor A such a Historic Preservation Officer

Arizona State Parks Board

Anizona State Parks Board

Ei W. Vanne

Support Office

**Enclosures** 



## DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY FORT WORTH DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERSS

P.O. BOX 17300, 819 TAYLOR STREET FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102-0300

June 8, 2007

Engineering and Construction Support Office

SUBJECT: Environmental Assessment for the Installation of 4.2 miles of Pedestrian Fence along the International Border near Lukeville, Arizona, Office of Border Patrol Tucson Sector, Arizona

Honorable Delia Carlisle, Chairperson ATTN: Ms. Nancy Nelson, Cultural Resources Manager Ak Chin Indian Community 47685 N Eco Museum Rd Maricopa, AZ 85239

Dear Chairperson Carlisle:

While no final decisions on the fence locations have been made, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District (USACE) on behalf of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) intends to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) to address the feasibility of installing and maintaining approximately 4.2 miles of border barrier fence.

Based on congressional and executive mandates, CBP is assessing operational requirements and land issues along the entire Southwest border. Preparing the EA does not necessarily mean the 4.2 miles of barrier fence will be installed. This effort is a prudent part of the planning process needed to assess any environmental concerns.

The potential project would consist of replacing 4.2 miles of vehicle barriers with border fence. The construction foot print for this potential project would encompass the entire Roosevelt Reservation (60 feet from the U.S.-Mexico border north). The proposed border fence would begin 2.1 miles west of the Lukeville Port of Entry (POE) and extend eastward along the U.S.-Mexico border for 4.2 miles. Attached is a portion of the Lukeville 7.5 minute USGS quadrangle, which identifies the possible project site.

Previous cultural resource investigations and their Section 106 compliance have been accomplished by the Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument for their permanent vehicle barrier project. Therefore, no cultural resources surveys will be conducted, as the potential areas of impact are replacement and will be situated in the cleared area.

If you have any questions or comments regarding Traditional Cultural Places or Sacred Sites in or very near the project area, please call Ms. Patience Patterson, RPA at 817-886-1723 or Assistant Chief Patrol Agent Craig Weinbrenner at the Office of Border Patrol, Tucson Sector (520) 748-3000.

Sincerely,

Eric W. Verwers

Director, Engineering and Construction

E. W. Venn

Support Office

Enclosures

Copy Furnished w/ enclosure

Mr. James Garrison, State Historic Preservation Officer

ATTN: Ms. JoAnne Medley

Arizona State Parks 1300 West Washington Phoenix, Arizona 85007

#### Distribution List for Tribal Consultation on the Lukeville fence Project

Honorable Delia Carlisle, Chairperson

ATTN: Ms. Nancy Nelson, Cultural Resources Manager (Acting)

Ak Chin Indian Community 47685 N Eco Museum Rd Maricopa, AZ 85239 520-568-1369

Honorable Sherry Cordova, Chairperson

**ATTN: Ms Jill McCormick** 

Cocopah Tribe

County 15th & Avenue G

Somerton, AZ 85350

Honorable Daniel Eddy, Jr., Chairman

ATTN: Mr. E. George Ray, Director Museum

Colorado River Indian Tribes

Route 1, Box 23-B

Parker, AZ 85344

Honorable William Rhodes, Governor

ATTN: Mr. Barnaby Lewis

Gila River Indian Community

Cultural Resources Management Program

P.O. Box 2140

Sacaton, AZ 85247

Honorable Benjamin H. Nuvamsa, Chairman

ATTN: Leigh Kuwanwisiwma

The Hopi Tribe

Main Street

Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039

(928) 734-3612

Honorable Hermnia Frias, Chairperson

ATTN: Ms. Amalia A.M. Reyes, Cultural Resources

Pascua Yaqui Tribe

7474 S Camino de Oeste

Tucson, AZ 85746

Honorable Mike Jackson, Jr., President

Ouechan Tribe

ATTN: Ms. Pauline Jose

Fort Yuma-Quechan Tribal Museum

350 Pichcho Rd

Winterhaven, CA

### Distribution List for Tribal Consultation on the Lukeville-Ajo Fence Project

Honorable Joni Ramos, President **ATTN: Ms. Dezbah Hatathli, Cultural Programs Supervisor**Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community

Cultural and Environmental Services Department

10005 E. Osborn

Scottsdale, AZ 85256

Honorable Wendsler Nosie, Sr., Chairperson **ATTN: Ms. Vernelda Grant, THPO**San Carlos Apache Tribe
P.O. Box 0
San Carlos, AZ 85550

Honorable Ned Norris, Jr., Chairman

ATTN: Mr. Peter Steere, Cultural Resources Manager
Tohono O'odham Nation
Cultural Affairs Department
Main Street
Sells, AZ 85634

Honorable Ronnie Lupe, Chairman ATTN: Mr. Mark Atalha, THPO White Mountain Apache Tribe P.O. Box 507 Fort Apache, AZ 85926



## DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

FORT WORTH DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P. O. BOX 17300
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102-0300

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF:

June 4, 2007

**Engineering and Construction Support Office** 

Environmental Assessment for the Installation of 4.2 miles of Pedestrian Fence along the International Border near Lukeville, Arizona, Office of Border Patrol Tucson Sector, Arizona

Arizona Game and Fish Habitat Branch-Project Evaluation Program Attn: Mr. Bob Broscheid, Project Evaluation Program Supervisor 2221 West Greenway Road Phoenix, Arizona 85023

Dear Mr. Broscheid:

While no final decisions on the fence locations have been made, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District (USACE) on behalf of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) intends to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) to address the feasibility of installing and maintaining 4.2 miles of border barrier fence.

Based on congressional and executive mandates, CBP is assessing operational requirements and land issues along the entire Southwest border. Preparing the EA does not necessarily mean the 4.2 miles of barrier fence will be installed. This effort is a prudent part of the planning process needed to assess any environmental concerns.

This potential project would consist of replacing 4.2 miles of vehicle barriers with border fence. The construction footprint for this potential project would encompass the entire Roosevelt Reservation (60 feet from the U.S.-Mexico border north). The proposed border fence would begin 2.1 miles west of the Lukeville Port of Entry and extend eastward along the U.S. – Mexico border for 4.2 miles. Attached is a portion of the Lukeville 7.5 minute U.S.G.S. quadrangle, which identifies the possible project site.

We are currently in the process of gathering the most current information available regarding Federally and state listed species, cultural resources, and sensitive and unique areas occurring within the potential project area. We respectfully request that your agency provide any information regarding those resources and/or issues that you believe may be affected.

Your prompt attention to this request would be greatly appreciated. If you have any

questions, please call Mr. Charles McGregor of my staff at (817) 886-1585 or Assistant Chief Patrol Agent Craig L. Weinbrenner at the Office of Border Patrol Tucson Sector at (520) 748-3000

Sincerely,

Erc W. Ververs

Director, Engineering and Construction Support Office

